

Message Text

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S E C R E T NAIROBI 8276

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, KE, UG

SUBJECT: GOK MOD OFFICIAL ON KENYAN/UGANDAN RELATIONS

REF: NAIROBI 8245

1. DEFENSE MINISTRY PERMSEC KIEREINI TOLD DCM AUGUST 5 THAT AMIN "HAD VERY CONSIDERABLY" REDUCED NUMBER OF UGANDAN TROOPS NEAR KENYAN BORDER IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS DURING PAST TWO DAYS. HE SAID THIS WAS APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO KENYAN NOTIFICATION TO UGANDA THAT KENYA WOULD REFUSE TO EVEN BEGIN CURRENT BILATERAL TALKS IN ABSENCE OF SIGNIFICANT UGANDAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL.

2. WHILE KIREINI IS NOT PARTICIPATING DIRECTLY IN TALKS WITH UGANDA, HE IS PARTICIPATING IN PRIVATE GOK DISCUSSIONS OF TACTICS AND GOALS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH UGANDANS. HE SAID THAT TWO MOST CRITICAL AGENAD ITEMS-- ON SECURITY OF KENYA AND ON SECURITY OF KENYAN CITIZENS IN UGANDA--ARE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH UGANDANS TODAY. GOK NEGOTIATORS FEAR THAT UGANDANS MAY BE UNWILLING TO AGREE TO GOK DEMANDS OF COMPENSATION TO FAMILIES OF KENYAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN UGANDA. HOWEVER, PRECEDENT HAD BEEN SET FOR COMPENSATION OF THIS TYPE WHEN UGANDAN GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR AGREED TO COMPENSATION FOR SEVERAL TANZANIANS WHO HAD BEEN KILLED

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IN UGANDA. HE SAID GOK WOULD, THEREFORE, PROPOSE

TODAY THAT COMPENSATION BE PAID TO RELATIVES OF THREE
PROMINENT KENYANS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN
UGANDA RECENTLY. ONE OF THESE IS ESTHER CHESIRE, A
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY STUDENT, WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED
AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND NEVER SEEN
SINCE.

3. KIEREINI SAID IT IS GOK POSITION THAT NEGOTIATIONS
CANNOT PROCEED TO OTHER AGENDA POINTS (REFTEL) UNLESS
AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON THESE TWO SECURITY ITEMS ON
AGENDA. SINCE IT IS DOUBTFUL UGANDANS WILL ADMIT
RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEATHS OF KENYANS, HE THOUGHT IT
WAS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT TALKS WILL BREAK DOWN.

4. KIEREINI SAID ARRANGEMENTS FOR AIRLIFT TO KENYA
OF URGENTLY NEEDED MUNITIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED.
MARSHALL

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